

Appln No.: 09/786,502
Amendment Dated: December 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A fusion receptor composition having the structure:
PSMA-scFv : ~~optional~~ connector : cytoplasmic domain,
wherein PSMA-scFv is a single chain antibody cloned from the V region genes of a hybridoma specific for prostate-specific membrane antigen, the cytoplasmic domain is the cytoplasmic domain of a molecule which functions as a transducer of a mammalian immune response in the presence of a costimulatory factor, and the connector comprises one or more amino acids disposed between the PSMA-scFv and the cytoplasmic domain, said connector to be of sufficient length to allow both the PSMA-scFv and the cytoplasmic domain to retain function, whereby the fusion receptor is effective when expressed in a T-cell to promote a cellular immune response to prostate-specific membrane antigen, wherein the connector is a CD8 hinge.
2. (original) The fusion receptor of claim 1, wherein the cytoplasmic domain comprises a ζ -chain of CD3.
3. (previously presented) The fusion receptor of claim 1, wherein the cytoplasmic domain is a CD28 cytoplasmic domain.
4. (canceled)
5. (currently amended) The fusion receptor of claim 1, wherein the cytoplasmic domain is a ~~41-BB~~ 4-1BB cytoplasmic domain.
6. (canceled)
7. (previously amended, withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from cancer, wherein the cells of the cancer or neovasculature associated with the cancer express prostate-specific membrane antigen, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) preparing an expression vector comprising an expressible polynucleotide molecule encoding a fusion protein in accordance with claim 1;
 - (b) transducing the expression vector into peripheral blood lymphocytes obtained from the patient to obtain transduced lymphocytes expressing the fusion protein; and
 - (c) reintroducing the transduced lymphocytes into the patient, whereby said transduced lymphocytes respond to antigen on the surface of the cells of the cancer to generate a cytolytic immune response to the cells of the cancer.

Appln No.: 09/786,502
Amendment Dated: December 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2005

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the expression vector is transduced into the peripheral blood lymphocytes in an *ex vivo* process.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the expression vector is transduced into patient PBL using gibbon ape leukemia virus envelope-pseudotyped virions.

11. (withdrawn) The method of claim 8, wherein the expression vector is transduced into patient PBL using gibbon ape leukemia virus envelope-pseudotyped virions.

12. (currently amended) Peripheral blood lymphocytes transduced with an expression vector encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 1, and expressing the a fusion receptor ~~in accordance with claim 1~~.

13. (previously amended) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 1 and control sequences effective to promote expression of the fusion receptor in mammalian lymphocytes.

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (original) The vector of claim 13, wherein the expression vector is packaged in gibbon ape leukemia virus envelope-pseudotyped virions.

17-20. (canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from cancer, wherein the cells of the cancer or neovasculature associated with the cancer express prostate-specific membrane antigen, comprising the steps of:

(a) preparing an expression vector comprising an expressible polynucleotide molecule encoding a fusion protein in accordance with claim 2;

(b) transducing the expression vector into peripheral blood lymphocytes obtained from the patient to obtain transduced lymphocytes expressing the fusion protein; and

(c) reintroducing the transduced lymphocytes into the patient, whereby said transduced lymphocytes respond to antigen on the surface of the cells of the cancer to generate a cytolytic immune response to the cells of the cancer.

22. (withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from cancer, wherein the cells of the cancer or neovasculature associated with the cancer express prostate-specific membrane antigen, comprising the steps of:

- (a) preparing an expression vector comprising an expressible polynucleotide molecule encoding a fusion protein in accordance with claim 3;
- (b) transducing the expression vector into peripheral blood lymphocytes obtained from the patient to obtain transduced lymphocytes expressing the fusion protein; and
- (c) reintroducing the transduced lymphocytes into the patient, whereby said transduced lymphocytes respond to antigen on the surface of the cells of the cancer to generate a cytolytic immune response to the cells of the cancer.

23. (withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from cancer, wherein the cells of the cancer or neovasculature associated with the cancer express prostate-specific membrane antigen, comprising the steps of:

- (a) preparing an expression vector comprising an expressible polynucleotide molecule encoding a fusion protein in accordance with claim 4;
- (b) transducing the expression vector into peripheral blood lymphocytes obtained from the patient to obtain transduced lymphocytes expressing the fusion protein; and
- (c) reintroducing the transduced lymphocytes into the patient, whereby said transduced lymphocytes respond to antigen on the surface of the cells of the cancer to generate a cytolytic immune response to the cells of the cancer.

24. (withdrawn) A method for treating a patient suffering from cancer, wherein the cells of the cancer or neovasculature associated with the cancer express prostate-specific membrane antigen, comprising the steps of:

- (a) preparing an expression vector comprising an expressible polynucleotide molecule encoding a fusion protein in accordance with claim 5;
- (b) transducing the expression vector into peripheral blood lymphocytes obtained from the patient to obtain transduced lymphocytes expressing the fusion protein; and
- (c) reintroducing the transduced lymphocytes into the patient, whereby said transduced lymphocytes respond to antigen on the surface of the cells of the cancer to generate a cytolytic immune response to the cells of the cancer.

25. (currently amended) Peripheral blood lymphocytes transduced with an expression vector encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 2, and expressing the a fusion receptor ~~in accordance with claim 2~~.

26. (currently amended) Peripheral blood lymphocytes an expression vector encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 3, and expressing the a fusion receptor ~~in accordance with claim 3~~.

Appln No.: 09/786,502
Amendment Dated: December 15, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2005

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) Peripheral blood lymphocytes transduced with an expression vector encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 5, and expressing the a fusion receptor ~~in accordance with claim 5~~.

29. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 2 and control sequences effective to promote expression of the fusion receptor in mammalian lymphocytes.

30. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 3 and control sequences effective to promote expression of the fusion receptor in mammalian lymphocytes.

31. (canceled)

32. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a polynucleotide sequence encoding a fusion receptor in accordance with claim 5 and control sequences effective to promote expression of the fusion receptor in mammalian lymphocytes.